

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/671,329

Examiner

KIEU-OANH T BUI

Applicant(s)

DONLAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 07/19/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5-9,11-14 and 18-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

1. Claims 3-4, 10, 15-17, and 21-31 were cancelled in the latest amendment (dated 07/15/04)

Drawings

2. The drawings filed on 09/26/2000 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the attached "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-2, 5-9, 11-14, 18-20 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the closest prior art issued to Howe and Kaiser fails to either alone or combine to teach or suggest a system for managing the intercommunication of provisioning-related data between interconnected provisioning systems and an interactive television (ITV) network, wherein the system comprises an ITV Provisioning Manager device having a plurality of interfaces, a plurality of ITV Network Components including an IP provisioning system, a subscriber management billing system, an ITV service center, and a customer service center; and wherein each of the ITV Network Components having associated provisioning systems each

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individually connected to respective ones of the interfaces of the ITV Provisioning manager device as well as an ITV Client device also having an associated provisioning system connected to at least one of the ITV network components, and wherein the associated provisioning system of the ITV client device is individually connected to respective ones of the interfaces of the ITV Provisioning manager device in order for the associated provisioning systems of the ITV Client device and the ITV Provisioning Manager device to communicate provisioning-related data directly with one another for the ITV Provisioning Manager device to manage provisioning of the ITV client device.

Regarding claim 18, the closest prior art issued to Howe and Kaiser fails to either alone or combine to teach a system for managing the intercommunication of provisioning-related data between interconnected provisioning systems and an interactive television (ITV) network which has the technique of a provisioning message being transmitting and receiving of an interactive television provisioning apparatus between interconnected provisioning systems in an ITV network and interfaces for an operator and the provisioning systems with a data storage for storing provisioning related data.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Howe (US Patent 6,826,775 B1), Carney et al (US PUB 2002/0059586 A1), and Logston et al. (US Patent 5,481,542) disclose some interactive television systems (ITVs) with different approaches and components.

6. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park I.I. 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-0095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:30 PM, with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant, can be reached on (703) 305-4755.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Krista Bui
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December 01, 2004



KRISTA BUI
PATENT EXAMINER